UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,139	07/08/2004	Kazuhito Niwano	254911US2PCT	1406

22850 7590 07/05/2006

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER	
HUANG, WEN WU	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2618	

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/500,139	NIWANO, KAZUHITO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Wen W. Huang	2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 6-8, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shiraki et al. (US PUB NO. 2002/0115461 A1; hereinafter "Shiraki")

Regarding **claim 6**, Shiraki teaches a mobile station (see Shiraki, fig. 3) comprising:

a mobile-station reception part for receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of the mobile station, from a base station (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 23 and para. [0071], lines 4-5);

an amplifier for controlling up-link power by a control signal (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 29);

a transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 24) for separating the information on the transmission power value required for

communication at the position of the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 6-10), and for generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7); and

a mobile-station transmission part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 27) for controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on the amplifier-characteristic control signal generated by the transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7 and 13-15).

Regarding **claim 7**, Shiraki also teaches the mobile station of claim 6 further comprising:

an up-link power control part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 25) for generating a transmission power control signal for controlling the transmission power value to be transmitted to the base station, based on the information on the transmission power value separated by the transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 11-17),

wherein the mobile-station transmission part controls the transmission power value of the amplifier, based on the transmission power control signal generated by the up-link power control part (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 1-7).

Regarding **claim 8**, Shiraki also teaches the mobile station of claim 6, wherein the transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 24) separates prediction information on a transmission power value required for communication at a movement destination of the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 6-10), and generates the amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining the output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to a predicted transmission power value based on separated prediction information on the transmission power value (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7).

Regarding **claim 14**, Shiraki teaches a mobile station (see Shiraki, fig. 3) communication method comprising:

receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of a mobile station, from a base station (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 23 and para. [0071], lines 4-5);

separating the information on the transmission power value required for communication at the position of the mobile station, from a received radio signal (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 6-10);

generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of an amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7); and

controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on a generated amplifier-characteristic control signal (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7 and 13-15).

Regarding **claim 15**, Shiraki teaches a mobile station communication program which makes a computer (see Shiraki, fig. 3) execute processes comprising:

a process of receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of a mobile station, from a base station (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 23 and para. [0071], lines 4-5);

a process of separating the information on the transmission power value required for communication at the position of the mobile station, from a received radio signal (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 6-10), and generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of an amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7); and

a process of controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on a generated amplifier-characteristic control signal (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7 and 13-15).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraki as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Steer (US. 6,845,246 B1).

Regarding **claim 9**, Shiraki teaches the mobile station of claim 8.

Shiraki is silent to teaching that further comprising:

a prediction evaluation part for detecting the prediction information on the movement destination, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part, comparing a detected movement destination with an actual position, and judging one of to adopt the prediction information on the movement destination and not to adopt the prediction information on the movement destination,

wherein the transmission power value setting control part, when it is judged to adopt the predicted information on the movement destination by the prediction evaluation part, generates the amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining the output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the predicted transmission power value. However, the claimed limitation is well known as evidenced by Steer.

In the same field of endeavor, Steer teaches a mobile station (see Steer, fig. 2, col. 3, lines 32-34) comprising:

a prediction evaluation part(see Steer, fig. 2, components 23 and 24) for detecting the prediction information on the movement destination, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part (see Steer, col. 7, lines 66-67; "map

information"), comparing a detected movement destination with an actual position (see Steer, col. 8, lines 4-6; "location information"), and judging one of to adopt the prediction information on the movement destination and not to adopt the prediction information on the movement destination (see Steer, col. 9, lines 2-9),

wherein the transmission power value setting control part, when it is judged to adopt the predicted information on the movement destination by the prediction evaluation part, generates the amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining the output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the predicted transmission power value (see Steer, col. 8, lines 24-26).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Shiraki with the teaching of Steer in order to accurately adjust a transmitting power of a mobile station based on the location of the mobile station (see Steer, col. 1, lines 11-13).

3. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraki as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Chuprun et al. (US. 6,115,580; hereinafter "Chuprun")

Regarding **claim 10**, Shiraki teaches the mobile station of claim 6.

Shiraki is silent to teaching that further comprising a route setting part, by receiving designation of a starting point and a reaching point, for setting route information based on the starting point and the reaching point, and a mobile-station data

communication part for multiplexing the route information set by the route setting part, to information to be transmitted to the base station. However, the claimed limitation is well known as evidenced by Chuprun.

In the same field of endeavor, Chuprun teaches a mobile station comprising a route setting part (see Chuprun, fig. 2, components 58 and 52), by receiving designation of a starting point and a reaching point, for setting route information based on the starting point and the reaching point (see Chuprun, col. 4, lines 54-60), and a mobile-station data communication part (see Chuprun, fig. 2, component 42) for multiplexing the route information set by the route setting part, to information to be transmitted to the base station (see Chuprun, col. 6, lines 8-12).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Shiraki with the teaching of Chuprun in order to select the more optimal wireless links between a mobile station and a base station (see Chuprun, col. 1, lines 51-55).

4. Claims 1-4, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soliman (US. 6,490,460 B1) in view of Bruckert et al. (US. 5,778,030; hereinafter "Bruckert")

Regarding **claim 1**, Soliman teaches a base station (see Soliman, fig. 4) comprising:

a base-station reception part for receiving a radio signal from a mobile station (see Soliman, fig. 4, components 462 and 472);

a mobile-station-position monitor part for detecting location information on the mobile station from the radio signal received by the base-station reception part (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 1 and col. 4, lines 12-15); and

a correlation part for correlating a transmission power value for transmitting information with the location information on the mobile station (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 50-55); and

an up-link power control information generation part for selecting the transmission power value ("reverse link power control loop limits") correlated by the correlation part to be corresponding to the location information ("position information") on the mobile station detected by mobile-station-position monitor part (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 130 and col. 4, lines 38-41).

Soliman is silent to teaching that comprising the up-link power control information generation part for generating up-link power control information to the mobile station, based on a selected transmission power value. However, the claimed limitation is well known as evidenced by Bruckert.

Bruckert teaches a base station (see Bruckert, fig. 4) comprising an up-link power control information generation part for generating up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman with the teaching of Bruckert in order to dynamically adjust the power control threshold (see Bruckert, col. 1,lines 59-60).

Regarding **claim 2**, the combination of Soliman and Bruckert also teaches the base station of claim 1,

wherein the mobile-station-position monitor part detects a plurality of the location information on the mobile station from the radio signal received by the base-station reception part (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 27-30), and predicts a movement destination of the mobile station based on a detected plurality of the location information (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 35-37), and

the up-link power control information generation part calculates a transmission power value required for communication at a position of the movement destination of the mobile station predicted by the mobile-station-position monitor part (see Bruckert, col. 11, lines 42-60), to be corresponding to the transmission power value required for communication at each position in the detected plurality of the location information on the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 3, component 307; col. 5, lines 39-40 and col. 12, lines 8-15), and generates up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a calculated transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Regarding **claim 3**, the combination of Soliman and Bruckert also teaches the base station of claim 1,

wherein the mobile-station-position monitor part predicts a movement destination of the mobile station, based on detected location information on the mobile station (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 27-30 and 35-37), and

the up-link power control information generation part selects the transmission power value correlated by the correlation part to be corresponding to information on the movement destination of the mobile station predicted by the mobile-station-position monitor part (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 38-41 and 50-55), and generates the up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Regarding **claim 4**, the combination of Soliman and Bruckert also teaches the base station of claim 1, further comprising:

a route information detection part for detecting route information on the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the base-station reception part, wherein the correlation part correlates the location information on the mobile station with the route information (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 30-37), and

the up-link power control information generation part selects the transmission power value correlated by the correlation part based on the route information detected by the route information detection part and the location information on the mobile station

detected by mobile-station-position monitor part (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 130 and col. 4, lines 38-41), and generates the up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Regarding **claim 12**, Soliman teaches a base station communication method (see Soliman, fig. 4) comprising:

receiving a radio signal from a mobile station (see Soliman, fig. 4, components 462 and 472);

detecting location information on the mobile station from a received radio signal (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 1 and col. 4, lines 12-15); and

correlating detected location information on the mobile station with a transmission power value for transmitting information (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 50-55);.

Soliman is silent to teaching that comprising generating up-link power control information to the mobile station, based on a correlated transmission power value. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Bruckert.

Bruckert teaches a base station communication method comprising generating up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman with the teaching of

Bruckert in order to dynamically adjust the power control threshold (see Bruckert, col. 1,lines 59-60).

Regarding **claim 13**, Soliman teaches a base station communication program which makes a computer (see Soliman, fig. 4) execute processes comprising:

a process of receiving a radio signal from a mobile station; a process of detecting location information on the mobile station from a received radio signal (see Soliman, fig. 4, components 462 and 472); and

a process of correlating detected location information on the mobile station with a transmission power value for transmitting information (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 50-55).

Soliman is silent to teaching that comprising a process of generating up-link power control information to the mobile station, based on a correlated transmission power value. However, the claimed limitation is well known as evidenced by Bruckert.

Bruckert teaches a base station communication program which makes a computer (see Bruckert, fig. 4) execute processes comprising a process of generating up-link power control information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman with the teaching of Bruckert in order to dynamically adjust the power control threshold (see Bruckert, col. 1,lines 59-60).

5. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soliman and Bruckert as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Chuprun et al. (US. 6,115,580; hereinafter "Chuprun")

Regarding **claim 5**, the combination of Soliman and Bruckert teaches the base station of claim 1, wherein the mobile-station-position monitor part predicts a movement state of the mobile station based on a detected location information on the mobile station (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 27-37).

The combination of Soliman and Bruckert is silent to teaching that wherein a plurality of the base stations exists, and selects the base station to communicate with the mobile station from the plurality of the base stations, based on a predicted movement state, and switches communication with the mobile station, to a selected base station. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Chuprun.

In the field of endeavor, Chuprun teaches a base station wherein a plurality of the base stations exists (see Chuprun, fig. 1, col. 2, lines 40-44), and selects the base station to communicate with the mobile station from the plurality of the base stations (see Chuprun, col. 5, lines 63-67), based on a predicted movement state (see Chuprun, col. 4, lines 23-29), and switches communication with the mobile station, to a selected base station (see Chuprun, col. 6, lines 1-13).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman and Bruckert with the teaching of Chuprun in order to select the more optimal wireless links between a mobile station and a base station (see Chuprun, col. 1, lines 51-55).

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soliman in view of Bruckert and Shiraki.

Regarding **claim 11**, Soliman teaches a communication system comprising:

a base station (see Soliman, fig. 4) which comprises:

a base-station reception part for receiving a radio signal from a mobile station (see Soliman, fig. 4, components 462 and 472);

a mobile-station-position monitor part for detecting location information on the mobile station from the radio signal received by the base-station reception part (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 1 and col. 4, lines 12-15); and

a correlation part for correlating a transmission power value for transmitting information with the location information on the mobile station (see Soliman, col. 4, lines 50-55); and

an up-link power control information generation part for selecting the transmission power value ("reverse link power control loop limits") correlated by the correlation part to be corresponding to the location information ("position information")

on the mobile station detected by mobile-station-position monitor part (see Soliman, fig. 1, step 130 and col. 4, lines 38-41).

Soliman is silent to teaching the base station comprising the up-link power control information generation part for generating up-link power control information to the mobile station, based on a selected transmission power value. However, the claimed limitation is well known as evidenced by Bruckert. Furthermore, Soliman is also silent to teaching that comprising a mobile station which comprises:

a mobile-station reception part for receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of the mobile station, from a base station;

an amplifier for controlling up-link power by a control signal;

a transmission power value setting control part for separating the information on the transmission power value required for communication at the position of the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part, and for generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value; and

a mobile-station transmission part for controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on the amplifier-characteristic control signal generated by the transmission power value setting control part.

Bruckert teaches a base station (see Bruckert, fig. 4) comprising an up-link power control information generation part for generating up-link power control

information to the mobile station (see Bruckert, fig. 4, step 430 and col. 5, lines 28-30), based on a selected transmission power value (see Bruckert, fig. 5, component 509 and col. 5, lines 42-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman with the teaching of Bruckert in order to dynamically adjust the power control threshold (see Bruckert, col. 1,lines 59-60).

The combination of Soliman and Bruckert is silent to teaching a mobile station comprising

a mobile-station reception part for receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of the mobile station, from a base station;

an amplifier for controlling up-link power by a control signal;

a transmission power value setting control part for separating the information on the transmission power value required for communication at the position of the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part, and for generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value; and

a mobile-station transmission part for controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on the amplifier-characteristic control signal generated by the

transmission power value setting control part. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Shiraki.

Shiraki teaches a mobile station (see Shiraki, fig. 3) comprising:

a mobile-station reception part for receiving a radio signal including information on a transmission power value required for communication at a position of the mobile station, from a base station (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 23 and para. [0071], lines 4-5);

an amplifier for controlling up-link power by a control signal (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 29);

a transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 24) for separating the information on the transmission power value required for communication at the position of the mobile station, from the radio signal received by the mobile-station reception part (see Shiraki, para. [0071], lines 6-10), and for generating an amplifier-characteristic control signal for obtaining output characteristics of the amplifier to be corresponding to the transmission power value, from a separated information on the transmission power value (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7); and

a mobile-station transmission part (see Shiraki, fig. 3, component 27) for controlling the output characteristics of the amplifier, based on the amplifier-characteristic control signal generated by the transmission power value setting control part (see Shiraki, para. [0072], lines 4-7 and 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Soliman and Bruckert with

the teaching of Shiraki in order to implement a transmission power control loop when mobile station is moving at a high speed (see Shiraki, para. [0013], lines 10-14).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Komatsu (US. 7,010,320 B2) teaches a location based closed transmission power control loop.

Hogan (US. 6,442,393 B1) teaches a location based power control.

Arnold et al. (US. 6,748,233 B1) teach a location based power control.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen W. Huang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7852. The examiner can normally be reached on 10am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay A. Maung can be reached on (571) 272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

wwh

6/13/06

NAY MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER